



To all who are weary and need rest,
To all who mourn and need comfort,
To all who are lonely and need friendship,
To all who are complacent and need disturbing,
To all who sin and need a savior,
To all who are glad and would serve,
This church opens wide its doors.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026

OPENING WORDS

Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel
Pastor

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRELUDE

"The Solid Rock"

Jesse Warkentin

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is calling us out.
Out of the places we hide. Out of insecurity. Out of shame.
Out from under that which silences love and justice.
Come out, people of God!
Though we may be afraid. Though we will be at risk.
God calls us to courage!
Our God is a god of resurrection. Of new life after devastation.
Of hope in the grip of evil.
And so we dare to proclaim, with pride and faith, our truths:
We believe in the power of love. We believe in solidarity with the suffering.
We believe we are each valuable. We believe that our togetherness is transformative.
The world is longing for holy truths that reveal, voices that speak real words of hope.
Come out, people of God!

PRAYER

Cat Fernando-Rizzo
Deacon

*HYMN

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Chalice 16

** Please stand as you are able.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Congregation

RESPONSE

"Thank You Lord"

Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord,
 Been so good, been so good,
 Shout! God's name. Speak God's grace.

thank you, Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
 been so good, I just want to thank you, Lord.
 Reign in us. We just want to thank you, Lord.

"We've Come This Far by Faith"

We've come this far by faith, lean - ing on the Lord;
 trust - ing in God's ho - ly word, God's ne-ver failed me yet.
 O can't turn a - round, we've come this far by faith.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Cat Fernando-Rizzo



Welcome Survey

<https://forms.gle/XQuFx98vDEUvyHy>

COVENANT OF CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Jana Dye
Pastor

OFFERTORY

"Oh, I Want to Know You More"

Jesse Warkentin



Online Giving

<http://mbcnyc.org/get-involved/give>

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all good gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:1-8, 16-18

Anaseini Katoa

SERMON

"Closets are for Praying"

Rev. Dorothee Benz

*HYMN

"Seek Ye First"

Chalice 354

CLOSING WORDS

Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dorothee Benz

POSTLUDE

Jesse Warkentin

Service Notes

Cover art is by Marco Perez, as part of an HRC National Coming Out Day Art Exhibition.

Prelude is by Edward Mote (words) and William B. Bradbury (music). Arranged by James Pethel.

Call to Worship is written by Paige Darnell from the United Church of Christ Worship Resources for Open and Affirming Sunday | <https://openandaffirming.org/worship/>.

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" is by Robert Robinson (words). Music from *Wyeth's Repository Sacred Music, Part Second*.

"Thank You Lord" is a Traditional African American song and melody. Harm. by J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix.

"We've Come This Far By Faith" is by Albert A. Goodson (words and music). Harm. by Richard Smallwood.

"Oh, I Want to Know You More" is by Steve Fry (words & music).

"Seek Ye First" is by Karen Lafferty (words and music).

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TODAY'S PREACHER

Rev. Dorothee Benz (she/her) is a writer, organizer, and strategist who has spent decades on the front lines of social justice struggles in the United States. She holds a PhD in political science from the City University of New York with an expertise in social movements and an MDiv from Union Theological Seminary with a concentration in social ethics. Following a long communications career in the labor movement and civil rights litigation, she is now an ordained Christian minister dedicated to the urgent task of fighting white Christian nationalism.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Evening with Poet, Speaker & Public Theologian [Drew Jackson](#) Wednesday, October 21 | 7:00-8:30 PM

Mark your calendars for the next offering in Metro's Mindfulness series. On Wednesday, October 21, we will host Drew Jackson, who is the Managing Director of Formation for the Center for Action and Contemplation. More details to come, but please mark your calendars for this next offering in our Metro Mindfulness series made possible by a grant from The Calvin Institute.

Nature Walk in Central Park with Herbalist Dawn Petter

Saturday, November 21 from 11AM to 12:30PM

Dawn Petter will lead us on a gentle walk in nature, providing the opportunity to reconnect with the wisdom and beauty of the plant world. Through mindful observation and attuning our senses, we'll explore the ancient relationship between people and plants and cultivate a sense of wonder immersed in God's creation.



FALL Sale to benefit Winter Clothing Closet

Next Saturday, October 17 (1:00-5:00 PM) | Metro's Basement

Come shop for some affordable, gently used fall clothing for a good cause! Our Clothing Closet volunteers have been hard at work organizing this sale. This will help Metro/RMM clear out precious and limited storage space to accept more warm winter clothing and proceeds will go directly towards the Clothing Closet. There will be coats, jackets, sweaters, blouses, tees, ties & socks priced anywhere from \$1 to \$20.



Winter Clothing Closet Opens TUESDAY, November 3!

Most TUESDAYS (November 3, 2026 - March 23, 2027)

Distribution: 1:15-2:30 PM | Volunteer Needs: 12:30-3:30 PM

RMM's Winter Clothing Closet reopens soon and we need YOUR HELP!

CLOTHING DONATIONS: We are in great need of the following new or gently used clothing items for adults: heavy winter coats, sweatshirts/sweaters, joggers/jeans, t-shirts, hats, gloves, scarves and underwear. You can drop off donations here at Metro (bin in rear of sanctuary).

VOLUNTEERS: Each TUESDAY, we will be in need of 15-20 volunteers to help distribute clothing to those in need. **You can sign up for one or more volunteer opportunities by scanning QR above.**

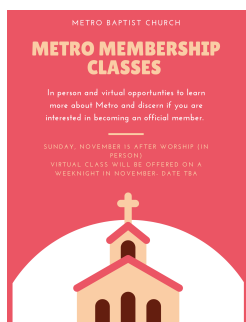


Memorial for Rafael "Ralph" Domenech

TENTATIVE DATE: Saturday, November 7 at 2:00 PM

Metro Baptist Church Sanctuary (and will also be streamed virtually)

Beloved Metro custodian, Ralph Domenech, passed away on September 24 after a long battle with cancer. We are planning a memorial service to be held in Metro's sanctuary on Saturday, November 7 at 2:00 PM. All are invited to join in person or online. Please hold the date and time for now. Full details and updated information to come.



Metro Membership Classes

Sunday, November 15 after worship (in person at home of the Bergquists)

Metro Pastors, in coordination with our Deacons, have scheduled an opportunity for anyone in our community who is not an official member of Metro but interested in learning more about what membership means. Come hear from leaders and longtime members of Metro about our church's history and values, and discern for yourself whether membership is the right choice for you at this time. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Jana (jdye@mbcnyc.org).

Please note that a weeknight virtual class will also be offered at a later date.



Let's Celebrate our Metro October Birthdays!

We're sending a huge Happy Birthday to all those in our beloved community who are celebrating another year of life this month!!

- Julia O'Brien - October 2
- Liam O'Brien - October 5
- Karissa Thacker - October 7
- Jesse Warkentin - October 27
- Matt Tucker - October 30

Have a birthday this month but don't see your name above? Click [here](#) to add your birthday information or reach out to one of your Pastors so we can celebrate you as well!



Hell's Kitchen Farm Project

Open Farm Days (10:00 AM - 12:00 PM); Thursdays & Select Saturdays

Upcoming Dates: October 1, 3, 8, 15, 17, 22, 29

Metro's rooftop farm is open for the season and all are welcome to visit or volunteer on the farm. Weather permitting, the farm will be open to the public every Thursday, as well as select Saturdays, each month. Check our website for the latest schedule and updates: www.hkfp.org. See LuAnne Prevost (lprevost@rmmnyc.org) with any questions. *Please note there is a 4-floor walk up to the rooftop farm.*



Metro's Annual Meeting of the Corporation & 4th Quarterly Church Conference

Sunday, November 8 following morning worship (in person & via Zoom)

Please plan to join for Metro's congregational meeting on November 8 following the 11:00 AM worship service. Full agendas will be sent out closer to the meeting date.



Annual Giving Monthly Update

Thank you for supporting the ministry and work of Metro Baptist Church through your tithes and offerings. For more questions regarding our stewardship efforts & focus, please feel free to reach out to Metro Trustee Sara Day (saraday468@gmail.com).

General offerings as of September 2026: \$204,572.21

Total Amount Budgeted for 2026: \$270,000.00

Metro Baptist Church

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www.mbcnyc.org | mbc@mbcnyc.org

Rauschenbusch Metro Ministries: www.rmmnyc.org

Hell's Kitchen Farm Project: www.hkfp.org

Affiliated and partnered with the Alliance of Baptists and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

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Rev. Jana Dye	PASTOR
Stephena George	PROGRAM ASSISTANT
J'Quay Gibbs	FOOD & JUSTICE ASSOCIATE
Rev. Tiffany Triplett Henkel	PASTOR
Anita Massengill	WORSHIP LEADER
Cathy McGaughey	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR
Rev. Dr. Troy Messenger	HYBRID WORSHIP COORDINATOR
Rev. LuAnne Prevost	PROGRAM MINISTRY COORDINATOR
Marshall Vargas	PROGRAM ASSISTANT
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